

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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44

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IGA-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00

SIL-01 HEW-06 INT-05 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SAM-01

DHA-02 IO-10 PM-04 DODE-00 /088 W

----- 060845

O 301305Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3080

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 17361

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDIAN MINE DISASTER

REF: NEW DELHI 17335

URGENT: PLEASE PASS TO MR. MIRMALAI (RES. 703 978 4381 -
OFFICE. 703 235 1582) MINING ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION (MESA)

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH S.N. ACHARYA, JOINT
SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF MINES/STEEL WHO HAS INDICATED
THAT HE HAD BEEN IN DIRECT TOUCH WITH MIRMALAI, MESA, AND
UNDERSTANDS THAT TWO PUMPS ARE SCHEDULED FOR DEPARTURE
NEW YORK ON 1A 104 TUESDAY NIGHT, THREE PUMPS ON
WEDNESDAY NIGHT, AND FIVE PUMPS ON THURSDAY. HE HAS ASKED
FOR CONFIRMATION OF THIS SCHEDULE.

2. CONTRARY TO EARLIER VIEWS EXPRESSED BY GOI, WE HAVE
NOW BEEN INFORMED THAT THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS TO US
SENDING TECHNICAL EXPERTS. HOWEVER, ACHARYA SAYS
AUTHORITIES AT MINE SAY EXPERTS NOT NECESSARY. EMBASSY
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BELIEVES THAT AT LEAST A PUMP EXPERT AND PERHAPS OTHERS

RELATED TO MINE RESCUE OPERATIONS AS ORIGINALLY INTENDED SHOULD ACCOMPANY EQUIPMENT. IN ORDER TO ARRANGE ONWARD PASSAGE VIA INDIAN AIR FORCE AND ACCOMMODATIONS AT MINE SITE, MR. ACHARYA HAS URGENTLY REQUESTED THE NAMES OF EXPERTS BEING SENT.

3. GOI HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO PERMIT CONGEN CALCUTTA OFFICER AND A USIS PHOTOGRAPHER TO BE PRESENT AT ARRIVAL OF US EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL AT PANAGARH, TO VISIT MINE SITE AND TO PERMIT A USIS PHOTOGRAPHER TO PHOTOGRAPH THE ARRIVAL AT BOMBAY.

4. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.SAXBE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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